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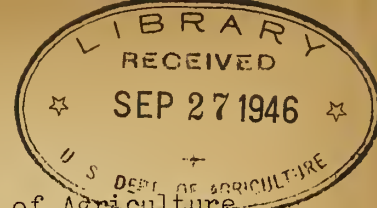
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A VICTORY GARDEN PROGRAM FOR 1945



Broadcast by Ernest Moore and H. W. Hochbaum, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Recorded December 22, 1945. Time: Six minutes, 20 seconds without announcer's parts.

ANNOUNCER: (LIVE) From the United States Department of Agriculture, a visit by transcription with our Farm Science Reporter Ernie Moore -- who is also manager of the Victory Garden program for 1945.

TRANSCRIPTION

ERNIE MOORE: Today we're going to talk about gardens. We must have just as many gardens this year as we had last year -- and it's none too early to start making plans. In fact some people, including a friend of mine who's here today, started making plans for a garden program as far back as November, when 150 garden leaders get together in Washington, D. C. I heard some mighty good talks at that meeting. One of the best was made by H. W. Hochbaum, chairman of the Garden Committee for the Federal Government. Mr. Hochbaum is here today, and he's going to give us the same ten-point program that he outlined for the garden leaders. All right, Hoch.

H. W. HOCHBAUM: Ernie, before I start off on those ten points, let me say this: At the meeting in November, there were garden leaders from all parts of the country-- and they all recommended a vigorous campaign for Victory gardens in 1945.

MOORE: I thought Judge Marvin Jones, head of the War Food Administration, hit the nail right square on the head when he said, "History shows that nations with ample food supplies are the ones that win victories."

HOCHBAUM: And he also said, "We cannot afford to gamble on having enough food."

MOORE: Well, we won't gamble -- if we follow your recommendations. What's the first one?

HOCHBAUM: The first point is city Victory gardens.

MOORE: You think all city and town families should have a garden.

HOCHBAUM: Yes sir! All city and town families with open, sunny, fertile garden space on the home lot -- or a good vacant-lot or community garden.

MOORE: That's one sure way to get fresh vegetables.

HOCHBAUM: At least, every day through the growing season. My second point is farm Victory gardens. For every farm with sufficient water, a summer and fall garden that will provide a year-round supply of a variety of fresh vegetables. We've made much progress with farm gardens, but we still have a long way to go.

MOORE: By the way, didn't our survey last fall show that 88 percent of the farms had a garden of some kind?

HOCHBAUM: Only 88 percent.

MOORE: Oh I see! You're after the rest of 'em.

HOCHBAUM: Sure! They need gardens too. My third point is long-season gardens. Brother Moore, do you know about the "Basic Seven"?

MOORE: I do, Brother Hochbaum. Nutrition experts say we need seven different groups of food to keep us well nourished.

HOCHBAUM: Three of the Basic Seven are vegetables and fruits. The long-season garden, that produces for six months, will yield twice as much of these "basic foods" as the garden that produces for only three months.

MOORE: So in your long-season garden, you'd have --

HOCHBAUM: I'd have lots of tomatoes, yellow vegetables, and green leafy vegetables.

MOORE: Did I tell you I had five kinds of greens in my garden -- clear up to the first of December?

HOCHBAUM: I know a fellow who had six.

MOORE: Go on. What's your next point?

HOCHBAUM: Number 4 -- more home fruit growing.

MOORE: You mean in addition to vegetables.

HOCHBAUM: Yes. And I mean fruits that are fairly easy to grow, like strawberries, bush fruits, grapes, cherries, plums. Two other fruits that yield well are apples and pears -- the dwarf forms are especially suitable for home gardens. Now point number 5 -- employee gardens. As many industrial concerns have found out, fresh vegetables and outdoor recreation mean better health for employees and improved personnel relations.

MOORE: While you're on that point -- not long ago I was in a meeting with representatives of about 25 large corporations. And they all said their companies were going to continue employee gardens this year.

HOCHBAUM: That's fine. Manufacturing plants, and public utility and industrial concerns should be encouraged to promote and provide vegetable gardens for employees. Now -- school gardens. The schools have made much progress in providing life-size garden space and garden instruction. However, school officials, Garden Club leaders, and other agencies can really do much more to expand the opportunities for garden instruction.

MOORE: Hasn't the city of Cleveland done a good job along that line?

HOCHBAUM: It surely has. It might be well to follow more generally the example set by Cleveland -- and by other cities where they really teach school gardening.

MOORE: One thing you've got to provide for -- when you're dealing with school gardens -- is good supervision. Especially in the summer.

HOCHBAUM: It makes all the difference between success and failure. Now, point number 7. Let's develop more vacant-lot and community gardens. Through garden leaders, real estate owners, park authorities, city recreation departments, local newspapers and radio stations -- through every possible sponsor. Often the local community garden is the city family's only means of getting a variety of fresh vegetables.

MOORE: It's more than that. These days, when it's so hard to go places, community gardens are social centers too.

HOCHBAUM: Yes, they're becoming centers of neighborliness and community spirit. Let's see that they are increased. My next point ties in very closely with community gardens. Point number 8 is more garden leaders.

MOORE: How could we have had such wonderful gardens -- without the garden leaders!

HOCHBAUM: We couldn't. We can't give too much praise to garden leaders -- may their numbers increase. They're greatly needed this year. To enroll gardeners, to find ground for those who don't have garden space at home, to give out information. To encourage new gardeners. To develop garden centers, and organize community harvest shows.

MOORE: And answer a few hundred questions every month?

HOCHBAUM: At least a few hundred. Now are we ready for point number 9?

MOORE: Well, you've covered city and farm gardens, long-season gardens, fruit growing, school gardens, employee gardens, vacant-lot gardens, and garden leaders. You're building up quite a program, Hoch. What do we do next?

HOCHBAUM: Beautify the home grounds.

MOORE: Plant some flowers?

HOCHBAUM: Yes, and along with flowers should go lawns, shrubs, and trees -- to make the home place attractive. And my last and final point takes in much more than the home place -- let's beautify America. We may have to wait till peace comes for some of the things I have in mind -- but I'd like to see more parks and parkways and playgrounds, more sightly approaches to our towns and cities, improved housing for industrial and low-income areas -- and better-planned housing developments.

MOORE: Plans that include garden space.

HOCHBAUM: Garden space, lawns and trees, and room for outdoor recreation. The same thing applies to residence sections, where new homes will be built after the war, Property owners and real estate sub-dividers can cooperate to see that new residence areas have sufficient garden space, that streets and alleys are laid out to make for the most beautiful and harmonious surroundings. I could go on and on with suggestions for beautifying America, but in the meantime -- and this is most important -- we must keep right on producing food.

MOORE: Many thanks, Mr. Hochbaum -- for your ten-point garden program for 1945.

ANNOUNCER: (LIVE) You've been listening to Ernest Moore and H. W. Hochbaum, of the United States Department of Agriculture.

